those public sector banks which are in shambles;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government also propose to privatise those sick Public Sector Banks which are beyond restructure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) A proposal or merger of one nationalised bank with another nationalised bank is under consideration. It will not be in public interest to disclose the details of the proposal at this stage. Besides, Government have received a preposal from the State Bank of India for the merger of its seven Associate Banks into a single Associate Bank. Government have solicited the views of Reserve Bank of India on the proposal.

(c) While presenting the Union Budget for 1993-94, the Finance Minister had stated that Government have decided that State Bank of India as well as other nationalised banks which are in a position to do so will be allowed to access the capital markets to rase fresh equity to meet their shortfall in capital requirements over the next three years. Finance Minister had also stated that Government will continue to retain majority ownership and, therefore, effective control in the public sector banks.

Outstanding Income-Tax, Excise duty and Customs Duty

951. CHAUDHERY HARMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state what is the amount of income tax, Central Excise duty and Customs duty outstanding, separately, as on 31st March, 1993?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SH. M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): The amounts of Income tax, Central Excise duty and Customs duty outstanding as on 31ts Marh, 1993 were Rs. 925900.00 lakhs (provisional), Rs. 192934.52 lakhs and Rs. 11509.49 lakhs respectievely.

DRI inquiry into the operations of Private Airlines

952. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has recntly started an investigation into the operation of private airlines to ascertain whether they had adhered to the procedures while importing aircrafts; and

(b) if so, what is the result of the inquiry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The doubt regarding import of second hand aircraft by private taxi operators was referred to the Director General of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, who has since clarified that import of such aircrafts are covered by Public Notice No. 10-ITC (PN)-1992-97 dated 30th April, 1992.

तम्बाकू उत्पादों पर उपकर लगाया जाना

953. **श्री महेश्वर सिंह**: क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार पहले तम्बाकू से उपकर वसूल करती थी किन्तु अब उसने तम्बाकू के बजाय बीड़ी और सिगरेट से उपकर वसूल करना आरंभ कर दिया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो पहले तम्बाकू पर उपकर से प्रति वर्ष कितनी राशि प्राप्त होती थी और अब बीड़ी तथा सिगरेट पर उपकर लगाए जाने से प्राप्त हो रही अलग-अलग राशियों का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम. वी. चन्द्रशेखर मूर्ति): (क) बीड़ी कामगार कल्याण उपकर अधिनियम, 1976 के अन्तर्गत